CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method for optimizing a network connection between a first device and a second device, said first device comprising a first packet protocol and a second packet protocol, said first packet protocol comprising a connection setup portion, said second protocol comprising a data transfer portion, comprising:

initiating said network connection from said first device to set second device using said first packet protocol;

receiving an acknowledgement from said second device; and,

initiating a data transfer between said first device and said second using said second packet protocol.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein said first packet protocol comprises a transport protocol.

3.   The method of claim 2, wherein said first packet protocol comprises TCP.

4.   The method of claim 3, wherein said first packet protocol comprises a transport protocol other than TCP.

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein said first device comprises an operating system, said operating system comprises said first packet protocol.

6.   The method of claim 1, wherein said second packet protocol comprises a transport protocol.

7.   The method of claim 6, wherein said second packet protocol comprises TCP.

8.   The method of claim 7, wherein said second packet protocol comprises a transport protocol other than TCP.

9.   The method of claim 1, wherein said first device comprises an integrated circuit, said

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integrated circuit comprises said second packet protocol.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said first device comprises a computer component card, said computer component card comprises said integrated circuit.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said computer component card is a PCI card.

12. The method of claim 31, wherein said computer component card is a PCI-X card.

13. A apparatus for optimizing a network connection between a first device and a second device, said first device comprising a first packet protocol and a second packet protocol, said first packet protocol comprising a connection setup portion, said second protocol comprising a data transfer portion, comprising:

      means for initiating said network connection from said first device to set second device using said first packet protocol;

      means for receiving an acknowledgement from said second device; and,

      means for initiating a data transfer between said first device and said second using said second packet protocol.

14. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first packet protocol comprises a transport protocol.

15. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said first packet protocol comprises TCP.

16. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said first packet protocol comprises a transport protocol other than TCP.

17. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first device comprises an operating system, said operating system comprises said first packet protocol.

18. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said second packet protocol comprises a transport protocol.

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19. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said second packet protocol comprises TCP.

20. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said second packet protocol comprises a transport protocol other than TCP.

21. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first device comprises an integrated circuit, said integrated circuit comprises said second packet protocol.

22. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said first device comprises a computer component card, said computer component card comprises said integrated circuit.

23. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said computer component card is a PCI card.

24. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said computer component card is a PCI-X card.

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